



JESSE BACON, SUPERINTENDENT

ADRIENNE USHER, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

BRANDY HOWARD, CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

TROY WOOD, CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER

TO: Dr. Jesse Bacon, Superintendent

FROM: Dr. Adrienne Usher, Deputy Superintendent
Dr. Brandy Howard, Chief Academic Officer

RE: Curriculum/Instructional Resources, etc. Approval

DATE: August 14, 2025

As of July 25, 2022, the Superintendent will oversee all curriculum, textbooks, instructional materials, and student support services per changes in Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS 160.345). The curriculum in each school shall be designed to achieve student capacities established by KRS 158.645 and the school goals established by KRS 158.6451. The curriculum shall comply with all applicable state and federal statutes and regulations. In any school administered under the provisions of KRS 160.345, the Superintendent shall determine which curriculum, textbooks, instructional materials, and student support services shall be provided in the school after consulting with the Board, the Principal, and the school council and after a reasonable public review and response period for all stakeholders. The attached documentation provides details on the following.

- School/Location
- Name of program or department requesting curriculum
- Applicable research and/or evidence-based findings for this curriculum (What Works ClearingHouse, EdReports, etc.)
- Explanation of curriculum materials including purpose, when will be utilized, content area, etc.
- Date of minimum two-week public stakeholder review by staff, parents, and the school community
- Review/approval date by Assistant Superintendent and/or Chief Academic Officer

Approval is requested of curriculum and/or instructional resources for district wide use along with several schools.

OUR MISSION IS TO INSPIRE AND EQUIP OUR STUDENTS TO SUCCEED IN LIFE

BULLITT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS AN EQUAL EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTION

Timestamp	School/Program	Please provide what specific program and/or	Curriculum Material Name (software, textbooks)	Please provide applicable research and/or evidence-based findings for this curriculum (What Works Clearinghouse, EdReports, etc.)	Explanation of Curriculum Materials including purpose, when will be utilized, which content/behavior, etc.	Provide dates of when a minimum of a 2-week	Date when principal consulted/discussed with SBDM	Name	Deputy Super/CAO Approval
7/30/2025 11:11	FES	Social Studies	TCM Exploring Social Studies for KY	This program emphasizes an inquiry-based approach, aligning with the Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) and the College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Framework. It prioritizes primary source analysis, multiple perspectives, and active citizenship within the context of social studies education. The curriculum aims to foster critical thinking, meaningful discussions, and student engagement in their communities.	https://www.teachercreatedmaterials.com/products/exploring-social-studies-kentucky-grade-3-121309#description Social Studies	Admin team met with Brandon Quick (May 2025) SBDM reviewed and approved on July 28, 2025	7/28/2025	Carla Wilson	AU 7.31.25
7/30/2025 2:31	Central Depa rtmen t	Gifted and Talented	Byrdseed TV - byrdseed.com - Lessons and Professional development to help challenge students	https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC233182/ This article explains the importance of critical thinking and higher level questioning in education, which the Byrdseed curriculum encompasses.	https://www.byrdseed.com/ and https://www.byrdseed.tv/ Byrdseed TV is a library of lessons, projects, and investigations that teachers can use directly with their students, especially gifted and high achieving students. The site also has professional development sessions and information on differentiating instruction for classroom teachers regarding GT students. Our department will work directly with teachers and students utilizing the lessons and content of this platform.	Posted on our GT website for review on April 25, 2025	NA	Sarah Coomer	AU 7.31.25

Timestamp	School Program	Please provide what specific program and/or	Curriculum Material Name (software, textbooks)	Please provide applicable research and/or evidence-based findings for this curriculum (What Works ClearingHouse, EdReports, etc.)	Explanation of Curriculum Materials including purpose, when will be utilized, which content/behavior, etc.	Provide dates of when a minimum of a 2-week	Date when principal consulted/discussed with SBDM	Name	Deputy Super/CAO Approval
8/7/2025 17:00 HMS	Social Studies and Science departments		TCI - teacher licenses to online curriculum	https://www.teachtci.com/about-us/ https://www.teachtci.com/what-people-are-saying/	Teachers will implement the curriculum in their classrooms. TCI's programs include many reading tools, strategies, and activities to support students. Here are the features: Flexible lesson options—hands-on classroom activities, video activities, and reading activities—let's teachers pick the engagement style that works for students. Videos are not passive, sit-and-play videos. These dynamic activities engage students with compelling storylines and interactions. They can be used as class activities or individual assignments. TCI's programs include opportunities to conduct inquiry projects, examine primary sources, and explore diverse perspectives. The ever-expanding learning libraries are also a rich resource for adding videos, games, civics, and biographies to lessons. Formative and summative assessments are woven throughout every TCI lesson and reading, including creative processing assignments, lesson games, and TCI's customizable tests.	July 16, 2025 to current	8/7/2025	Katie Cotner for Lauren Burnett	AU 8.11.25

Timestamp	School Program	Please provide what specific program and/or	Curriculum Material Name (software, textbooks)	Please provide applicable research and/or evidence-based findings for this curriculum (What Works ClearingHouse, EdReports, etc.)	Explanation of Curriculum Materials including purpose, when will be utilized, which content/behavior, etc.	Provide dates of when a minimum of a 2-week	Date when principal consulted/discussed with SBDM	Name	Deputy Super/CAO Approval
8/7/2025 17:00	HMS	Social Studies department	DBQ Project (access to online and digital resources)	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WgsXv85h3Cq4LPP00qRXtZZ6FB_x4B/view?usp=sharing	The DBQ project is clearly aligned with best practice. The materials support teachers in implementing standards as well as engage students in interesting social studies content. Social Studies teachers attended DBQ training recently and learned strategies that are relevant when implementing a single DBQ project, but there are many best practice strategies that can also be used independently of the project.	July 16, 2025 to current	8/7/2025	Katie Cotner for Lauren Burnett	AU 8.11.25
8/14/2025 12:00	NBH S	Culinary Education	ProStart COA Curriculum	https://myprostart.chooseresources.org/Students/Curriculum	The Prostart curriculum is used in addition to the school's curriculum. It is to prepare students to sit for, and hopefully obtain, the ProStart National Certificate of Achievement, which will allow students to be immediately employable in professional kitchens upon graduation from high school.	10/06/2025 - 10/20/2025 (future date of review)		Rob Morrison on behalf of Chef Nick Roby	AU 8.14.25

Timestamp	School Program	Please provide what specific program and/or	Curriculum Material Name (software, textbooks)	Please provide applicable research and/or evidence-based findings for this curriculum (What Works Clearinghouse, EdReports, etc.)	Explanation of Curriculum Materials including purpose, when will be utilized, which content/behavior, etc.	Provide dates of when a minimum of a 2-week	Date when principal consulted/discussed with SBDM	Name	Deputy Super/CAO Approval
6/28/2025	BCPS	Grades 6-8	Common Lit 360	EdReports Independent Review CommonLit 360 (6-8) received all-green ratings across all three gateways in May 2024: Gateway 1: Text Quality & Complexity Gateway 2: Building Knowledge Gateway 3: Usability (teacher support, alignment) Institute of Education Sciences +14 EdReports +14 cdn.edreports.org +14 cdn.edreports.org +6 CommonLit +6 CommonLit +6 The review highlighted high-quality anchor texts, strong text-dependent questioning, thematic unit organization, cumulative tasks, and clear teacher guidance CommonLit 2. What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) / ESSA Evidence While WWC does not have a specialized intervention report named CommonLit, CommonLit 360 studies have achieved ESSA Tier III ("Promising") certification, and one external study reached Tier II ("Moderate") status ERIC +7 cdn.commonlit.org +7 ERIC +7 A Mathematica evaluation involving over 110,000 students found that high usage of CommonLit 360 correlated with an average of 2.1 additional months of learning, improved engagement, and increased cultural awareness cdn.commonlit.org +2	Purpose & Scope CommonLit 360 Middle School is a comprehensive, year-long English Language Arts curriculum for grades 6-8, integrating reading, writing, vocabulary, listening, speaking, research, and media literacy skills cdn.edreports.org Structured into six units per grade, each centered on an essential question, anchor texts, supplemental readings, and culminating performance tasks (writing, presentations, research) cdn.edreports.org +2 cdn.edreports.org +2 EdReports +2 Unit & Lesson Design Each unit includes: High-quality anchor texts (stories, articles, essays, novels) selected around engaging themes like identity, social media, science, community. Related Media Explorations: multimedia resources to build background knowledge and media literacy. Explicit vocabulary & language instruction, aligned with Scarborough's Reading Rope (e.g., background knowledge, vocabulary, genre structure) ERIC +6 CommonLit +6 cdn.edreports.org +6 cdn.edreports.org +1 cdn.edreports.org +1 Scaffolded writing tasks, aligned to genre (analysis, argument, research, narrative), with teacher modeling, exemplar responses	August 4th-14th	N/A	Brandy Howard	AU 8.1.25